Kidnapping of children

†163. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that kidnapping of children for wrong deeds has become a big business and every year a large number of innocent children are getting lost and the officers do not take it seriously; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by Government, so that innocent children are not exploited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) As per records of National Crime Record's Bureau number of cases reported for kidnapping and abduction of children have increased from 3196 in 2004 to 3S18 cases in 2005.

(b) Efforts are being made to reduce the offences against children in the country by implementing relevant legislation like Indian Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, Immoral (Prevention) Trafficking Act and others. The provisions of existing laws are reviewed from time to time to make necessary changes whenever required.

National Commission for Children

164. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Children has started functioning;

(b) whether the Commission has been given enough quasi-judicial powers to deal with child abuse cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, has been set up in March, 2007 as a statutory body under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 (4 of 2006).

(b) to (d) The Commission while inquiring into a matter has all powers of the Civil Court trying a suit under the CPC and in particular in respect of the following matters:

(i) Summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining them on oath;

(ii) Requiring the discovery and production of any document;

(iii) Receiving evidence on affidavits;

(iv) Requisitioning of any public record or copy thereof from any court of office;

(v) Issuing commissions for the examination of witness the documents;

The Commission also has power to forward a case to a Magistrate having jurisdiction to try the same.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.